

Values and New Models for Space Exploration (10)

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University of Bordeaux, FranceTOWARDS A COMMERCIAL SPACE PLAN: INSTITUTIONAL CONDITIONS OF A DIALOGUE  
WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN A TIME OF MULTIFACETED CHANGES**Abstract**

The space domain is currently a beehive of activity, and the introduction of new space actors such as the private sector is institutionally challenging as well as it requires a renewing of our frames of apprehending the management of space activities. Defining guidelines internationally defined and collectively outlined is then a necessary condition so that different governments and public administrations constituting the international space stage can deal with specific political and economic outputs that partnerships among public and private sectors would introduce. “Political” consequences of such partnerships are less related to diplomacy than to the governmental capacity of management and administration of its national affairs. This capacity varies, for instance depending on the kind of public policy model, which will orientate national priorities in the distribution of budget. The typology of governments crafted by Gosta Esping-Andersen, a Danish economist who repeatedly contributed to studies at the United Nations, at the World Bank or at the European Commission, remains efficient to understand these disparities. Hence the necessity of a comparative analysis among the major states leading current space programs, in order to analyze and anticipate paths of efficient public/private partnerships. Indeed, the administration of public affairs cannot be the same whatever its related model of public policies, even if the development of a world-wide economy reduced the uneven commercial potential since the emergence of globalized societies. This question of administrative capacity and of economic system is deeply linked to the States’ motives to develop (or not) human space programs. Any strategic plan or roadmap aiming to understand how the introduction of private space actors in the administration of space activities therefore request a political and economic contextualization, as well as an overlook which would take in account national specificities. Such a work would prevent any un-operationalized generalization among States, and would highlight concrete organizational, administrative and economic implications of institutionalizing a public/private co-management of future manned space programs. Based on a empirical fieldwork and on a theoretical work in public policies, the present communication aims to provide such an analysis.